CLAIMS

1. An apparatus for reading an electronic medium, comprising:

an electronic medium reader; and

a computer card connected to said electronic medium reader, said computer card attached to a computer through a computer bus, said computer card capable of performing electronic medium functions and at least one other computer function.

2. The apparatus of Claim 1, wherein said electronic medium reader comprises:

a base being profiled to have a receiving area;

a contact receiving area in communication with the receiving area; and

at least one contact disposed in the contact receiving area, each contact having a leg passing through the base for electrical connection with a printed circuit board.

3. The apparatus of Claim 1, wherein said electronic medium comprises any of:

a smart card, memory card, security device, or combination thereof.

4. The apparatus of Claim 1, wherein said computer function comprises any of:

networking, modem, video, memory, and core logic chipset.

5. The apparatus of Claim 1, wherein said computer card responds to operating system identity checks with responses to simulate bus-to-PCMCIA bridge responses.

6. The apparatus of Claim 1, wherein said bus includes any of ISA, VL, PCI, and AGP.

7. An apparatus for reading a smart card comprising:

a computer; and

a computer card connected to said computer through a bus, said computer card adapted to respond to an operating system identity check with a response to simulate a bus-to-PCMCIA bridge response.

8. A method for reading a smart card, comprising the steps of:

reading a smart card with a smart card reader; and

performing smart card functions and at least one other computer function with a computer card connected to said smart card reader, said computer card attached to a computer through a computer bus.

9. The method of Claim 8, wherein said smart card reader comprises:

a base being profiled to have a card receiving area;

a contact receiving area in communication with the card receiving area; and

at least one contact disposed in the contact receiving area, each contact having a leg passing through the base for electrical connection with a printed circuit board.

10. The method of Claim 8, wherein said computer function comprises any of:

networking, modem, video, and memory.

11. The method of Claim 8, wherein said computer card responds to operating system identity checks with responses to simulate bus to PCMCIA bridge responses.

12. The method of Claim 8, wherein said bus includes any of ISA, VL, PCI, and AGP.

13. A method for reading a smart card comprising the steps of:

connecting a computer card to a computer through a bus;

connecting a smart card reader to said computer card; and

responding to an operating system identity check with a response to simulate a bus-to-PCMCIA bridge response.